

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 146537

12

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-11 ADP-00 M-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SY-10 SS-15 EUR-25 EB-11 /109 R

DRAFTED BY S/CCT: LHOFFACKER:NWH

7/25/73 EXT 29892

APPROVED BY M: DR. TARR

CIA:MR. OBER (DRAFT)

EUR:WSTABLER(DRAFT)

SY:MR. GENTILE (DRAFT)

S/S MR. GAMMON

NEA:MR. ATHERTON (DRAFT)

AF:AMB. ROSS (DRAFT)

----- 058228

R 252253Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL EUROPEAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

ALL NEAR EASTERN AND SOUTH ASIAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 146537

E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 7/25/81

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: FOLLOWUP OF JAL HIJACKING

HIJACKING AND DESTRUCTION OF JAPANESE AIRLINE (JAL) BOEING

474 DURING PERIOD JULY 20-23 IS DRAMATIC EXAMPLE OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM WHICH USG CONTINUES TO ATTEMPT TO COUNTER, HOPEFULLY IN COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS.

SINCE THERE WERE NO DIRECT US INTERESTS INVOLVED IN THIS INCIDENT (NO AMCITS WERE CONFIRMED AS PASSENGERS), OUR POSTS IN VICINITY OF THE ITINERANT AIRCRAFT FOLLOWED

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SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 146537

EVENTS MOST DISCREETLY AND IN LOW PROFILE. ACCORDINGLY

THERE ARE MANY PERTINENT FACTORS WHICH ARE UNKNOWN TO US AND WHICH COULD BE SIGNIFICANT IN OUR CONTINUING STUDY OF TERRORISM.

FOR EXAMPLE, IDENTITY OF HIJACKERS IS UNCLEAR ALTHOUGH IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT THEY WERE OF ARAB (POSSIBLY PALESTINIAN) AND JAPANESE ORIGIN OR AFFILIATION. NO PALESTINIAN GROUP WILL ADMIT TO ASSOCIATION WITH THEM. THERE IS EVIDENCE OF JAPANESE RED ARMY CONNECTION WITH JAPANESE TERRORISTS ABOARD.

STILL MAINTAINING LOW PROFILE, POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO TRANSMIT TO DEPARTMENT (ATTENTION S/CCT) SOONEST SUCH INFORMATION AS MAY COME THEIR WAY DISCREETLY ON IDENTITY AND AFFILIATION OF HIJACKERS AND SUCH OTHER PERTINENT

INTELLIGENCE AS FOLLOWS:

1. SIGNIFICANT COMMENT BY HIJACKED PASSENGERS TO PRESS OR TO OTHERS.
2. COMMENT BY PALESTINIAN AND JAPANESE ORGANIZATIONS.
3. COMMENT BY GOVERNMENTS.
4. LIBYAN GOVERNMENT PRONOUNCEMENTS AND ACTIONS (IT IS REPORTED THAT THE LIBYANS MAY TRY OR EXTRADITE THE TERRORISTS.)
5. WHEREABOUTS OF TERRORISTS (DID ONE COMMIT HARA KIRI AS REPORTED?)
6. HOW DID TERRORISTS MOVE APPARENTLY SIZABLE QUANTITY OF AMMUNITION, AS WELL AS ARMS, ON BOARD THE PLANE AT PARIS OR AMSTERDAM?
7. SINCE TERRORIST ACTION WAS APPARENTLY INITIATED PREMATURELY (BY ACCIDENTAL EXPLOSION OF GRENADE WHICH KILLED ONE TERRORIST), WHAT WAS THE ORIGINAL SCENARIO? WILL HEADQUARTERS INSTRUCTING THESE TERRORISTS ATTEMPT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 146537

TO TRY AGAIN?

THIS INSTRUCTION HAS BEEN COORDINATED WITH CIA, WHICH IS INSTRUCTING ITS REPRESENTATIVES TO ASSIST IN THIS COLLECTION EFFORT. APPROACH TO GOVERNMENTS, IF ANY, IS LEFT TO FULL DISCRETION OF AMBASSADOR. DEPARTMENT RE-EMPHASIZES LOW KEY APPROACH TO SUCH COLLECTION IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY IMPLICATION OF OUR INTERVENTION IN ESSEN-

TIALLY JAPANESE CASE. IF QUESTIONS ARE RAISED ABOUT US
INTEREST IN THIS AFFAIR, POSTS MIGHT CITE WELL KNOWN US
POSITION ON TERRORISM AND OUR EARNEST EFFORTS TO IMPROVE
OUR KNOWLEDGE AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN INSTANCES SUCH AS
JAL AFFAIR. ROGERS

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